

State of the City Address 2012

Mayor Morrison

City of Fremont

>> MAYOR MORRISON: I'M PLEASED TO BE HERE TO TELL A STORY OF A RATHER REMARKABLE CITY. RAJ TOUCHED ON A LOT OF IT, AND I WANT TO THANK THE CHAMBER FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK. NOW I HAVE TO -- AS A PRECURSOR, WE WORKED REALLY HARD TO GET THIS DOWN TO A HALF AN HOUR, AND SO IF YOU HAVE TO LEAVE BEFORE I'M DONE, I UNDERSTAND. JUST DON'T BOO ON THE WAY OUT.

[LAUGHTER]

SO THIS IS A RATHER REMARKABLE CITY, AND I'M GOING TO TELL YOU A STORY OF IT BUT I CANNOT TELL YOU A STORY OF THE CITY OF FREMONT WITHOUT TELLING YOU THAT WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO GET TO THIS POINT IN THE LAST COUPLE YEARS, I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH, AND WE SHOULD PAY TRIBUTE TO BOB WASSERMAN AND HIS LEADERSHIP IN GETTING THE CITY THROUGH -- REALLY THROUGH THE WORST DEPRESSION SINCE THE 1930S. SO ANYTHING I DO IS TELLING THE STORY OF WHAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED THEN, AND, YOU KNOW, WE WILL REMEMBER BOB AND WE THINK OF HIM FREQUENTLY, AS CINDY SAID EARLIER.

SO THERE HAVE BEEN 43 MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OVER OUR 56 YEARS, AND WE LOST FOUR OTHERS LAST YEAR BESIDES BOB. WE'VE LOST CARL FLEGEL, WE LOST GEOFF STEEL, WE LOST JACK PARRY AND WE LOST PHIL LAMMI. OF THE 43, FIVE OF THEM LEFT LAST YEAR. BUT NOW WE SERVE -- WE SEE THE FIVE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL, AND AS AN ASIDE, DOMINIC AND I ARE GOING TO BE UP FOR AWARDS AS THE BEST ACTORS IN A TUESDAY NIGHT SOAP OPERA COME NOVEMBER, WHEN WE LEAVE. BUT IT'S JUST NOT THE CITY COUNCIL. IT'S THE STAFF, A MARVELOUS STAFF, MARVELOUS GROUP OF EMPLOYEES LED BY FRED DIAZ, AND OVER THE LAST COUPLE YEARS IN FACING THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE CITY OF FREMONT, EVERY EMPLOYEE OF THE CITY OF FREMONT TOOK A PAY CUT, NO EMPLOYEE GOT A RAISE SINCE 2009, AND EVERY EMPLOYEE -- WELL, THERE'S ONE EXCEPTION BUT THEY TOOK A PAY CUT INSTEAD -- NOW PAYS MORE INTO THEIR RETIREMENT. SO THAT'S ALL THE BARGAINING UNITS SITTING DOWN, RECOGNIZING WE HAD A PROBLEM WE HAD TO FACE, AND THEY DID THAT TO GET US TO THE POINT WHERE WE COULD SUCCEED. SO IT'S A TEAM EFFORT, AND IT'S NOT JUST THE COUNCIL, IT'S NOT JUST THE KEY STAFF, IT'S ALL THE BARGAINING UNITS AND EVERYBODY FROM THE PERSON WHO TRIMS THE TREES IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE TO THE CITY MANAGER.

SO AS WE GO ON, WE HAVE TO PUT EVERYTHING IN CONTEXT WITH THE BUDGET, AND WE HAVE -- THE BUDGET IS A PROBLEM BECAUSE THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY AND SO OVER THE YEARS, THE COUNCIL HAS ESTABLISHED A BUDGET OF \$131 MILLION, WHICH WE BALANCED LAST YEAR WITH TAKING \$2.8 MILLION OUT OF THE BUDGET UNCERTAINTY RESERVE, WHICH WE HAD THE WISDOM IN THE PAST TO BUILD UP, AND THIS YEAR IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO COME IN ON BUDGET, AND NEXT YEAR GOING ON, WE WILL NOT HAVE TO DIP INTO RESERVES; WE WILL BE ABLE TO START RECOVERING. THAT BUDGET IS MADE UP OF REVENUES THAT COME FROM PROPERTY TAXES, AND YOU CAN SEE THIS CHART THAT SHOWS EVEN WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS OF HOME SALES, PRICES GOING DOWN, SALES GOING DOWN, FORECLOSURES, YOU CAN

State of the City Address, March 30, 2012

Mayor Morrison, City of Fremont

SEE THAT WE'RE PRETTY CONSTANT ACROSS THE TOP. OUR BUDGET, OUR REVENUES FROM PROPERTY TAX IS CONSTANT, STAYED ABOUT THE SAME, A LITTLE OVER \$60 MILLION, AND THAT'S THE MAJOR SOURCE OF OUR REVENUE. WE ANTICIPATE THAT IT WILL START GOING UP AGAIN NOW, AS HOME SALES RECOVER, AND ALL YOU PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE, YOU WILL HOPE IT RECOVERS JUST ALONG WITH US. WE ALSO GET SALES TAX, A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF SALES TAX. IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO GROW. YOU CAN SEE THE BLOCK ON THE TOP, WHICH IS WHAT SEAN TALKED ABOUT EARLIER, WHERE TARGET IS AND THE NEW THEATERS ON THE BOTTOM, WHICH I AM TOLD WILL OPEN ON APRIL 20TH. WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT, AND THEN IN BETWEEN TARGET AND THE THEATERS, THAT WILL BE THE ACTUAL BLOCK, THE RESTAURANTS AND PLACES TO GO WHEN YOU GO TO A MOVIE AND AN ENTERTAINMENT CENTER. I SHOULD POINT OUT THAT PACIFIC COMMONS, WHICH IS GENERALLY THE AREA BETWEEN THE FREEWAY AND THE LANDFILL --

[LAUGHTER]

IT'S A GOOD LANDMARK. IT'S ONE OF THE LARGEST MAN-MADE STRUCTURES IN HISTORY. THAT AREA, PACIFIC COMMONS, WITHOUT THE AUTOMALL, GIVES US ABOUT \$2.4 MILLION A YEAR IN SALES TAX, AND THE AUTOMALL ADDS ANOTHER \$4 MILLION TO THAT, THAT'S OVER \$6 MILLION, YEAH, A LITTLE OVER \$6 MILLION FROM PACIFIC COMMONS. BUT IF YOU LOOK AT THE WHOLE INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT AREA, WHICH I'LL TALK A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THAT LATER ON, BUT THAT'S THE AREA FROM STEWART -- IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE STEWART IS, IF YOU WENT TO THE SADDLE RACK AND YOU'D TURN LEFT COMING OUT OF THE PARKING LOT INSTEAD OF RIGHT, THE STREET WHERE YOU HAVE TO TURN TO GO EITHER WAY, THAT'S STEWART. SO I FIGURED I'D GIVE A LANDMARK WHERE PEOPLE WOULD KNOW. SO THAT AREA FROM STEWART STREET ON THE SIDE OF THE -- THAT SIDE OF THE FREEWAY ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE COUNTY LINE PROVIDES OVER \$11 MILLION IN SALES TAX. THAT'S ABOUT A THIRD OF OUR TOTAL SALES TAX COMES OUT OF THAT. NOW REMEMBER THAT NUMBER, \$11 MILLION, BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT IT LATER ON. SO I HAVE TO SEE THAT CHART TO REMIND ME WHAT I HAVE TO SAY NEXT.

ALL RIGHT. SO THE COUNCIL ADOPTED A BUDGET SUSTAINABILITY PLAN, WHICH TALKS ABOUT A WHOLE LOT OF THINGS WE CAN DO RIGHT NOW TO SAVE MONEY. WE'VE DONE A LOT OF THOSE AND THINGS WE CAN DO IN THE LONG TERM TO SAVE MONEY. HOW CAN WE KEEP OUR COSTS DOWN TO LIVE WITHIN OUR MEANS, AND LOOK FOR OTHER PLACES WE CAN GET REVENUE. SO WE TALKED ABOUT SOME THINGS WE DID, WHICH INCLUDED -- ALL RIGHT. THESE ARE THINGS WE'RE LOOKING AT. WE'RE LOOKING AT OUTSOURCING LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE. WE CURRENTLY DO IN-HOUSE, PARK MAINTENANCE PEOPLE, SO WE'RE LOOKING AT STREET MEDIANS AND PARKS OTHER THAN CENTRAL PARK BEING MAINTAINED BY A PRIVATE CONTRACTOR, SO WE'RE GOING TO GO OUT FOR BID ON THAT AND SEE HOW THEY CAN COMPETE WITH US DOING IT IN-HOUSE.

EMERGENCY DISPATCH. CURRENTLY, OUR FIRE DISPATCH IS DONE BY THE ALAMEDA COUNTY DISPATCH IN LIVERMORE, BUT WE'RE LOOKING AT COMBINING FIRE AND POLICE DISPATCH FOR FREMONT, AND THEN ADDING POLICE DISPATCH FOR NEWARK AND UNION CITY IN ONE -- ONE UNIT, WHICH WOULD SAVE A WHOLE LOT OF MONEY ACROSS THE BOARD FOR ALL THREE CITIES; AND WE'RE LOOKING AT A STUDY FOR THAT, AND AT THE STAFF LEVEL, IT LOOKS GOOD. WE'RE NOT SURE HOW IT'S GOING TO WORK, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO WORK.

AND WE HAVE AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIC PLAN. WE USED TO HAVE A DEPARTMENT THAT DID IT FOR THE POLICE AND ONE FOR THE REST OF THE CITY; TALKED ABOUT MERGING THAT AND MAKING IT CHEAPER AND BETTER. WE HAVE DONE SOME LITTLE THINGS, LOTS OF LITTLE THINGS THAT INCLUDE SIMPLE THINGS LIKE THE COUNCIL AGENDA COMES ON AN IPAD NOW. NOW IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN IPAD - - I HAVE THREE, ONE OF WHICH IS THE CITY'S, AND I ONLY DROPPED THE BRAND NEW ONE. TRUE.

[LAUGHTER]

SO WE HAD AN AGENDA A COUPLE WEEKS AGO, IT WAS 274 PAGES LONG, AND I DID NOT GET A PIECE OF PAPER. IT WAS ALL ON THE IPAD. SO THE CITY CLERK ESTIMATES THAT WE WILL -- WE HAVE SAVED \$20,000 IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS IN PRINTING COSTS, JUST NOT PRINTING AGENDAS. SO THAT MAKES SENSE. IT'S JUST A SIMPLE THING. A LITTLE INVESTMENT PAYS OFF IN THE LONG RUN.

AN INTERESTING STORY IS, WE HAVE AN AUTO SHOP AT THE CORPORATION YARD OUT ON OSGOOD ROAD, AND WE HAD A PARTS DEPARTMENT, AND WE HAD A CLERK THAT MAINTAINED THE PARTS DEPARTMENT. AND SO SOMEBODY OUT THERE HAD THE BRIGHT IDEA, THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. SO THEY CONTRACTED WITH NAPA, NATIONAL AUTO PARTS DEALERSHIP, AND THEY TOOK OVER OUR PARTS DEPARTMENT. THEY STOCK IT, THEY BOUGHT ALL THE OLD PARTS WE HAD FROM US, AND THEY PROVIDE AN EMPLOYEE THAT THEY PAY FOR AND THEY -- IF THEY DON'T HAVE THE PART IN HOUSE, THEY DO LIKE YOUR GAS STATION DOES WHEN THEY NEED A PART, CALL UP AND THEY DELIVER IT DOWN THERE. JUST MAKES SENSE. WE'VE SAVED MONEY THERE.

IN THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WHICH PROVIDES GRANTS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED, THEY SET UP THEIR OWN FUND SO THEY CAN MANAGE THEIR FUND AND GO AFTER GRANTS AND NOT BE DEPENDENT ON THE GENERAL FUND AS MUCH. SO WE'RE LOOKING AT ALL KINDS OF THINGS LIKE THAT, BUT WE HAVE NEEDS TO HAPPEN. STREET MAINTENANCE HAS A DEFICIT OF \$15.5 MILLION A YEAR JUST TO GET UP TO WHERE WE WANT TO BE. WE NEED TO OPEN FIRE STATION NUMBER 7, WHICH IS RIGHT OVER HERE, DOWN THE STREET -- PARDON ME, 11. I SAID 7. FIRE STATION 11, WHICH IS BRAND NEW, WE'VE NEVER STAFFED. THAT'S A-MILLION-SEVEN. WE NEED TO ADD SEVEN TO TEN POLICE OFFICERS TO GET UP TO SOME STANDARD THAT WORKS FOR A COMMUNITY OUR SIZE. THAT'S ANOTHER MILLION-SIX. I CAN'T SEE THAT ONE. A-MILLION-SIX, YEAH. AND WE NEED TO NOT DEFER MAINTENANCE ON OUR CAPITAL ASSETS, OUR BUILDINGS; AND THE DOWNTOWN PLAN, WHICH WE'LL TALK ABOUT A LITTLE BIT LATER ON, HAS NEEDS FOR CITY CONTRIBUTIONS OF A MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR, AND THEN WE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR RETIREES, WHO WE ARE ON THE HOOK FOR PART OF THEIR MEDICAL COSTS, HOW WE FUND THAT IN THE LONG TERM. WE'RE LOOKING AT THOSE KINDS OF THINGS. WE NEED TO LOOK AT THAT, BUT WE'RE HANDLING IT.

SO THEN I ABSOLUTELY NEED TO TALK ABOUT REDEVELOPMENT. REDEVELOPMENT IS THE BEST TOOL WE'VE EVER HAD FOR FIXING PROBLEMS. AND I'LL GIVE YOU THE BEST EXAMPLE I CAN THINK OF. I TOLD YOU WHERE THE INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT AREA IS, YOU'RE SITTING IN IT, THIS IS PART OF IT, AND WHEN -- IN 1983, WHEN WE ESTABLISHED THE REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT FOR THE

INDUSTRIAL AREA AND THE BRIDGE BENEFIT DISTRICT, THE ASSESSED VALUE OF THIS WHOLE AREA FROM STEWART ALL THE WAY DOWN WAS \$68 MILLION. SO BASED ON PROP 13, IT PAYS 1% ON TAXES, \$680,000 IN TAXES TO ALL THE TAXING AGENCY. TODAY IT'S WORTH \$2.7 BILLION. NOW, THAT'S WHAT REDEVELOPMENT DOES. THAT'S THE TOOL. AND WHAT WE DID, WE INVESTED MONEY TO BUILD THE OVERPASSES, WHICH WERE -- WE NEEDED ONE LANE IN EACH DIRECTION AND WE COULD NOT GET TRAFFIC OVER HERE, WE COULD NOT GET PEOPLE OVER HERE TO USE THE PROPERTY PROPERLY, SO WE INVESTED ABOUT \$50 MILLION. I DIDN'T LOOK THE NUMBER UP, BUT IT'S SOMEWHERE CLOSE TO THAT. TOM BLALOCK, HOW MUCH DID WE INVEST?

ABOUT \$50 MILLION. SO WE INVESTED \$50 MILLION OVER TIME, SINCE 1983, AND TODAY, THAT \$27 BILLION WORKS OUT TO BE \$27 MILLION IN PROPERTY TAXES IT PAYS. SO THAT'S WHAT REDEVELOPMENT DOES FOR YOU, AND THAT'S A GREAT STORY; AND YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, THE STATE PUNISHED CITIES THAT WERE RESPONSIBLE. THERE WERE A LOT OF PROBLEMS WITH REDEVELOPMENT, AND I CAN POINT THEM OUT BUT I'M NOT GONNA, BUT THEY SHOULD HAVE FIXED THE PROBLEMS OR TAKEN THE MONEY AND SAY -- I HAVE A POINTER -- WELL, THAT'S A BETTER POINTER. OKAY. SO THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH ELIMINATING REDEVELOPMENT. WE HAVE NO TOOLS TO FIX BLIGHT NOW. SO -- BUT WE HAVE SOME OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, YOU LOOK AT -- I ASKED FOR SOME OLD PICTURES. WHAT I REALLY WANT WAS PICTURES BEFORE WE DID REDEVELOPMENT. THIS IS A LONG TIME BEFORE WE DID REDEVELOPMENT.

[LAUGHTER]

BUT THERE WERE THREE ORIGINAL AREAS OF REDEVELOPMENT: IRVINGTON, NILES, AND THE INDUSTRIAL AREA. AND THIS IS THE STREETSCAPES WE'VE IMPROVED HERE IN NILES, AND THE NILES PLAZA, WHICH YOU CAN'T MISS, AND WE BUILT SOME HOUSES OUT THERE BESIDES, SO A LOT HAPPENED WITH REDEVELOPMENT. IT PAYS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING, 20% OF THE TAX INCREMENT GOES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AND WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT IN A MINUTE. THEN IN CENTERVILLE -- PARDON ME, IN IRVINGTON, THIS IS ANOTHER OLD PICTURE. I LOOKED FOR A PICTURE OF FIVE CORNERS JUST BEFORE WE DID REDEVELOPMENT, BECAUSE I REMEMBERED VERY SPECIFICALLY, THERE WAS -- I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU, THERE WAS AN ADULT BOOK STORE ON THE CORNER, MAC'S GARAGE, DOC PORTER'S VETERINARY HOSPITAL THERE, AND BEHIND THAT WAS A KARATE STUDIO WHICH WAS BUILT ACROSS THE FLOOD CONTROL DITCH. SO WHAT WE DID WITH REDEVELOPMENT, WE ACQUIRED ALL THAT PROPERTY AS REDEVELOPMENT, WE CONSOLIDATED IT INTO ONE BIG PARCEL, AND WE SOLD IT BACK TO THE PEOPLE WHO OWNED IT IN THE FIRST PLACE, AND THEY WORKED WITH THE DEVELOPER TO BUILD WHAT'S THERE NOW. AND THEN WE WORKED AROUND THE PERIPHERY, THAT SHOPPING CENTER WITH SAFEWAY IN IT IS WHAT THEY DID, WE WORKED ACROSS THE STREET, WE WORKED IN THE PARK ACROSS THE WAY, MOVED THE MONUMENT OUT OF THE CENTER OF THE STREET. THE MONUMENT, WHICH WAS IN THE CENTER OF THE STREET TO KEEP THE TOMATO TRUCKS FROM SPILLING OVER WHEN THEY MADE THE TURN SO FAST, TRUE STORY; AND THEN MOST RECENTLY, WE DID BAY STREET. AND THIS IS BAY STREET, AND IT'S HARD TO SEE, BUT WORKING WITH PG&E, WE UNDERGROUNDED THE UTILITIES ON BAY STREET AND IT JUST -- SOMEHOW WHEN YOU REMOVE THOSE UTILITIES, THE OVERHEAD WIRES, IT OPENS UP THE VIEW AND IT JUST MAKES IT SO MUCH BETTER, SO WE LOOK FOR BIG IMPROVEMENTS ON BAY STREET, WHICH PEARLS IS STILL THERE BUT IT'S NOT, BUT SOMETHING HAS TAKEN ITS PLACE.

AND THEN IN HOUSING, THESE ARE, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS. WHEN WE BUILD AFFORDABLE HOUSING, THERE IS A CERTAIN REQUIREMENT OR INHERENT REQUIREMENT TO BUILD A QUALITY PROJECT, BECAUSE YOU CAN'T HAVE PEOPLE CRITICIZING IT. THIS IS MAIN STREET VILLAGE. THIS IS A LEED-CERTIFIED PLATINUM PROJECT BUILT BY ADOBE -- ADOBE, I'LL GET IT RIGHT, THEN THIS IS MAPLE SQUARE, RIGHT ACROSS FROM BILL HARRISON'S ACCOUNTANT'S OFFICE ON MAPLE STREET AT HANSEN. THAT'S A FOR-PROFIT DEVELOPER, BUILD AFFORDABLE HOUSING. THAT'S REALLY NICE. I REMEMBER WHEN PEOPLE WERE CRITICIZING IT, THEY CAME AND THEY SHOWED US THESE SIMULATED PICTURES OF WHAT IT WAS GOING TO LOOK LIKE, AND IT LOOKS JUST LIKE THEY TOLD US IT WAS GOING TO LOOK LIKE. THEY BUILT SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSES ALONG HANSEN SO THEY BLOCKED THE VIEW OF THE MULTIFAMILY BEHIND IT. AND THEN TWO OTHER PROJECTS THAT ARE IN IRVINGTON GENERALLY, SO 20%. WE HAVE TO BE A SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO FIND WAYS TO FACILITATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE FUTURE, BECAUSE REDEVELOPMENT IS GONE. ALTHOUGH BOB WIECKOWSKI TOLD ME THE ASSEMBLY PASSED A BILL ON MONDAY TO FIND A WAY TO GET THAT MONEY BACK INTO AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

BUT POST REDEVELOPMENT, WE CAN'T STOP, WE HAVE TO KEEP GOING, AND OUR EFFORTS ARE FOCUSING ON A NEW WAY OF DOING BUSINESS, A NEW WAY OF CLEAN TECH. WE HAVE THE PEOPLE, WE HAVE THE FACILITIES, WE HAVE THE COMPETITIVE LEASE RATES, AND WE'RE READY TO MOVE AND TO BUILD THE NEW WORLD. WE DO THINGS LIKE MAKING CLEAN TECH AND BIOTECH PEOPLE GET A BREAK ON THE FIRST COUPLE YEARS OF BUSINESS LICENSE FEES, JUST TO HELP THEM COME. SO WE HAVE SOME OF THESE COMPANIES, YOU KNOW, SOME, I KNOW, SOME, I DON'T KNOW. I WAS IN TESLA LAST WEEK, AND BOY, THAT'S A BIG FACILITY. THEY HAVE TO BUILD IT A WHOLE LOT TO MAKE A LOT OF CARS. I WAS AT INTEMATIX, WHICH MAKES LED PHOSPHORS THAT MAKE THE LIGHTS IN MANY DIODES WORK. BOSTON SCIENTIFIC DOES DEVICES THAT GO IN THROUGH YOUR FEMORAL ARTERY AND GO UP INTO YOUR BRAIN AND DEAL WITH BRAIN ANEURYSMS WITHOUT INTENSIVE SURGERY TO THE BRAIN. I WENT TO THEM WHEN THEY WERE TARGET THERAPEUTICS AND LEARNED ABOUT THAT, AND THEN MY NEPHEW HAD TO HAVE THAT SURGERY AND I KNEW ALL ABOUT IT, COULD TELL MY SISTER HOW -- WHAT A GREAT DEAL IT WAS. SO THESE ARE COMPANIES -- DELTA IS MOVING, BUILDING A CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET. YOU CAN SEE THE SIGN WHEN YOU CAME IN. AND SO IF YOU TAKE THE NAMES DOWN AND LOOK THEM UP, YOU CAN FIND OUT WHAT THEY ALL DO. IT'S AMAZING, WHAT GOES ON BEHIND THOSE SIGNS.

AND THEN WE HAVE -- WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT WHAT I WILL SAY IS THE OLD NUMMI SITE, BUT NOW IT'S THE TESLA SITE. WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT. SO THIS IS THE SITE, THIS IS IT HERE, AND WE'LL GO TO THE BIGGER SLIDE, THE BART STATION IS HERE, THERE'S BART, AND YOU CAN SEE THIS IS TESLA, AND THESE TWO PROPERTIES OUTLINED IN RED ARE OWNED BY UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD, WHO IS IN TEAM WITH US TO TRY TO GO FORWARD TO BUILD THAT AS A UNIQUE PLACE, AND BASED ON WHERE IT IS, WE HAVE -- AND WHAT IT IS, WE HAVE THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD A MODEL, THE MODEL, OF A TRANSIT-ORIENTED JOB CENTER. AND WE'VE ALREADY DONE THE INITIAL STUDY AND WE HAVE THE REFERRAL FROM COUNCILMEMBER NATARAJAN ON TUESDAY NIGHT TO BRING THE URBAN LAND INSTITUTE IN TO DO AN INTENSIVE STUDY FOR A FEW DAYS TO HELP US TO DEVELOP IT, AND WE'RE GOING FORWARD TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE THAT OTHERS CAN FOLLOW.

FREQUENTLY, WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT SMART GROWTH, PEOPLE ALWAYS TALK ABOUT BUILDING HOUSES NEAR THE BART STATION, AND IN THIS CASE, YOU KNOW, IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE TO BUILD HOUSES THERE WHEN YOU HAVE ALL THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BRING PEOPLE TO WORK. WE COULD BRING THEM FROM THE HOUSING CENTERS, OTHER PLACES, AND GET THE JOBS HERE IN FREMONT. SO THAT'S ONGOING AND WE'RE WORKING HARD AT THAT.

AND THE DOWNTOWN -- FIRST IT WAS DOWNTOWN, THEN IT WAS MIDTOWN, NOW IT'S DOWNTOWN AGAIN AND I LIKE IT BETTER. THE AREA -- THIS IS THE HUB, AND THIS IS WHAT HAS BECOME THE RALEY CENTER, AND THE AREA WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IS BETWEEN THE TWO, BETWEEN WALNUT AND MOWRY, PASEO AND FREMONT BOULEVARD. THIS IS AN ARTIST'S RENDERING OF WHAT IT IS, AND WE'RE LOOKING AT A LIFESTYLE CENTER, WHICH IS WHERE PEOPLE COME FOR A SPECIFIC ITEM, WHETHER IT'S A BOOK STORE OR AN OUTDOOR STORE, NOT GENERALLY A BIG DEPARTMENT STORE BUT -- AND THEN YOU BUILD AROUND IT SO IT'S A WALKING TYPE THING, AND YOU HAVE RESIDENCES OVER THE COMMERCIAL, SO THAT'S THE LONG-RANGE VIEW OF THAT. THE PROBLEM WE HAVE IS PARKING, AND WE TALKED EARLIER ABOUT NEEDING A MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR TO DEAL WITH THAT. WE NEED TO PROVIDE PARKING. SO A LOT OF PARKING THERE, BUT IT'S FRAGMENTED. SO WE NEED PROBABLY A STRUCTURE SOMEWHERE. SO THAT'S ONGOING. TMG IS WORKING WITH US TO HELP THAT HAPPEN.

SO TRANSPORTATION. EVERYBODY WORRIES ABOUT TRANSPORTATION, HOW DO WE GET FROM HERE TO THERE. SO WE'LL TALK ABOUT BART TO WARM SPRINGS. THIS IS -- THIS SHOWS THE WORK IN THE TUNNEL THAT'S UNDER LAKE ELIZABETH. YOU WILL SEE THAT THE DAM IS GONE FROM THE LAKE. IF YOU WALK AROUND THE LAKE, YOU WILL SEE THAT THEY'RE ALMOST DONE WITH THAT, AND AT THE PRESENT TIME, BART HAS A DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACT, WHICH MEANS THAT THE DESIGNERS ARE DESIGNING THE RAILS THAT COME OUT OF THE BART STATION, CURRENT BART STATION, AND GO UNDERGROUND BEFORE STEVENSON, GO UNDER THE LAKE, COME UP A GRADE AND GO ACROSS OUR BRAND NEW OVERCROSSING THAT GOES OVER PASEO PADRE. PASEO PADRE UNDERCROSSING. THE BART WILL GO OVER THE TOP OF IT. SO THAT'S ONGOING, AND WE EXPECT THAT IT WILL BE IN REVENUE SERVICE IN 2015 -- TOM, RIGHT? TOM NODS HIS HEAD "YES" -- AND GETS TO WARM SPRINGS. AND THIS IS A RATHER SPECTACULAR ENTRANCE TO THE WARM SPRINGS BART STATION. IT IS ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT, IT SETS A STANDARD THAT WE CAN LOOK FOR, AND THEN THE STATION IS ELEVATED OVER TOP, AND THERE'S GLASS ACROSS THE TOP, ARTISTIC GLASS ACROSS THE TOP OF THE STATION ALL THE WAY ALONG.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE ONLY GOOD NEWS ABOUT BART. ON THE 12TH OF APRIL, THERE WILL BE A GROUNDBREAKING AT BERRYESSA, BERRYESSA STATION, ON VTA, BRINGING BART TO MEET WARM SPRINGS. IT'S KIND OF LIKE WHEN THEY BUILT THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD, THEY STARTED IN THE EAST, THEY STARTED IN THE WEST AND THEY MET, HOPEFULLY NOT 12 FEET APART, BUT THEY MET. SO THIS IS GOING TO HAPPEN, AND THEY'RE LOOKING BY 2018 TO HAVE SERVICE TO BERRYESSA. IF THEY GO FURTHER DOWN -- AS THEY WORK THEIR FUNDING THROUGH TO GO FURTHER DOWN UNDERNEATH DOWNTOWN SAN JOSÉ IN A TUNNEL, AND THEN TO THE DIRIDON STATION AND THEN EVENTUALLY TO SANTA CLARA, THE END OF THE LINE. SO THAT'S COMING, AND ALL WORKS WELL IN MY LIFETIME.

THEN, YOU KNOW, YOU CAN'T MAKE AN OMELETTE WITHOUT BREAKING AN EGG. THIS IS THE KATO ROAD GRADE SEPARATION. BART HAS TO COME DOWN HERE, AND IN ORDER TO GET IT THERE, WE HAVE TO CLOSE KATO ROAD, SO ON THE 23RD OF APRIL, KATO ROAD WILL CLOSE AND PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO FIND A CIRCUITOUS ROUTE TO WORK. AND THEN LATER ON THIS SUMMER, WARREN AVENUE AT MISSION, AGAIN, WE HAVE TO GET THE RAILROAD -- OR BART THROUGH THERE AND SEPARATE THE TRAINS FROM THE CARS, AND THAT'S GOING TO CLOSE THAT ALSO. SO PEOPLE WILL BE SWEARING AT US, BUT I'LL BE OUT OF OFFICE BY THEN, SO -

[LAUGHTER]

AND THEN IN NOVEMBER, WE'LL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON THE ULTIMATE EXTENSION OF MEASURE B, WHICH IS THE HALF CENT SALES TAX WHICH HAS PAID FOR A WHOLE LOT OF IMPROVEMENTS IN TRANSPORTATION THROUGHOUT ALAMEDA COUNTY. IT'S PASSED TWICE AND WE'RE LOOKING FOR THE THIRD ONE. THIS ONE MEANS WE DON'T HAVE TO CONTINUE IT, IT WILL JUST BE IN PERPETUITY AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO BUILD TRANSPORTATION-RELATED THINGS, AND IT ADDS ANOTHER HALF CENT SALES TAX FOR TRANSPORTATION ONLY. AND IT'S REALLY DEFINED SO THAT IT CAN'T BE USED FOR ANYTHING ELSE. IN IT, THERE ARE \$230 MILLION FOR FREMONT PROJECTS, 122, I THINK, WERE THE IRVINGTON BART STATION, AND THERE'S THE IRVINGTON BART STATION WHICH CROSSES OSGOOD ROAD, AND IT SHOWS IT COMING UP TO THE NEW OVERPASS ON WASHINGTON. THAT HAPPENS WITH THAT. WE WERE GOING TO FUND IT WITH REDEVELOPMENT MONEY, BUT -- THANKS, BOB, THANKS TO THE STATE, WE DON'T HAVE INSIDE -- SOMEBODY GOT IT OVER THERE. THANKS TO THE STATE, WE DON'T HAVE REDEVELOPMENT AS THAT TOOL, SO WE LOOK FORWARD TO THAT, IT WILL HELP WITH BART, WITH IRVINGTON, A WHOLE LOT.

SO THERE ARE OTHER THINGS INCLUDING PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT STUFF, YOU CAN SEE THIS IS -- THIS IS WHAT A STREET GOING BAD LOOKS LIKE. AND YOU PROBABLY LIVE CLOSE TO ONE OF THOSE, IF NOT ON ONE. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A STREET GETS CRAZED LIKE THAT, IT ALLOWS THE WATER TO GET UNDERNEATH THIS -- THE TOP LAYER OF ASPHALT, AND AS CARS RUN OVER IT, IT WEAKENS IT. SO WE TRY TO FIX THOSE, WE DO OVERLAYS AND CAPE SEALS, AND, YOU KNOW, FINALLY WE WIND UP HAVING TO GRIND IT OFF AND ADD A LAYER OF ASPHALT. IT'S ALL VERY EXPENSIVE. SO LIKE I SAY, WE SHOULD HAVE SPENT 15 1/2 MILLION DOLLARS; WE'RE SPENDING JUST UNDER 5. SO -- BUT THAT'S ALL THE MONEY THERE IS.

AND, YOU KNOW, I'M ESPECIALLY PROUD OF THIS SERIES OF CHARTS. WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT? I TOLD YOU AT THE BEGINNING, IT'S A PRETTY SPECIAL PLACE. IT IS UNIQUE IN THE COUNTRY, IF NOT THE WORLD. I FOUND SOME DATA FROM THE LATEST CENSUS 2010 REPORT WHICH HAD 1960 CENSUS DATA, AND THAT IS 1960, AND THIS IS THE CAUCASIAN COMMUNITY, THE NEXT BAR IS THE BLACK AFRICAN COMMUNITY, THE NEXT BAR IS THE ASIAN COMMUNITY, THE NEXT BAR IS OTHER. IN REAL NUMBERS, IN THAT ASIAN NUMBER, THERE WERE 300 FILIPINO, 200 JAPANESE, 115 CHINESE, 31 INDIAN, AND 18 OTHER. WELL, THERE ARE PROBABLY MORE THAN 31 INDIANS IN THE ROOM TODAY.

[LAUGHTER]

AND THAT WAS A PERIOD OF RAPID GROWTH. IN THOSE DAYS, WE CAME FROM ALL OVER THE BAY AREA TO COME TO FREMONT, AND, YOU KNOW, IN 1964, THE YEAR AFTER I CAME HERE, IN THE TRACT I LIVE IN, THEY CELEBRATED THAT 75,000 RESIDENTS IN FREMONT, FOUR YEARS LATER. SO YOU SEE, WE WENT FROM 43,000 TO 75,000 IN FOUR YEARS. THAT WAS A TIME OF RAPID GROWTH. IN THE LATEST CENSUS, YOU CAN SEE THIS IS THE WHITE POPULATION, THIS IS THE BLACK, THIS IS THE ASIAN, 108,000 ASIANS IN FREMONT. AND I GUESS THEY WERE ABOUT A THIRD CHINESE, A THIRD INDIAN AND A THIRD OTHER, AND THAT NUMBER, CHERYL CONFIRMED IT JUST BEFORE, THERE ARE 200 MORE INDIANS THAN THERE ARE CHINESE. THE INDIANS ARE CHEERING IN THE BACKGROUND. BUT WE'RE A DIFFERENT COMMUNITY. WHERE WE USED TO COME ALL OVER THE BAY AREA TO FREMONT, NOW WE COME FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO COME TO FREMONT. WE COME HERE BECAUSE THIS IS A GREAT PLACE TO BE, TO LIVE, TO RAISE YOUR KIDS, IT'S A GREAT PLACE TO INVEST AND TO GIVE TO THE FUTURE.

I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO TELL A WHOLE LOT OF STORIES, BUT I'M GOING TO TELL ONE. I WAS IN NEW YORK IN 2002 WHEN MAYOR BLOOMBERG WAS SPEAKING TO THE GROUP, AND HE SAID, YOU KNOW, WE HAVE PROBLEMS IN NEW YORK BECAUSE WE SPEAK 127 LANGUAGES IN THE HOME. AND I SAT THERE QUIETLY. I SAT THERE, HMM, WE DON'T HAVE THOSE PROBLEMS AND WE SPEAK 137 DIALECTS AND LANGUAGES IN THE HOME. AND THEN I THOUGHT THE DIFFERENCE IS THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO CAME TO FREMONT VERSUS THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO CAME TO NEW YORK. THOSE PEOPLE CAME TO GET A START, AND I THINK THE PEOPLE WHO CAME TO FREMONT CAME TO GIVE. AND TO EARN FOR THEMSELVES, BUT TO GIVE TO THE COMMUNITY. SO IT'S A REALLY UNIQUE PLACE, AND I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANOTHER CITY IN THE COUNTRY WITH THAT KIND OF DIVERSITY.

AND I WAS IN LONDON A FEW YEARS AGO, AND I FELT LIKE I WAS IN FREMONT WITH THE MIX OF PEOPLE ON THE STREETS. BIGGER CITY, BUT CROWDED, BUT WE'RE SAFE, WE'RE SAFE; THE TOTAL CRIME WENT DOWN, FROM 2011 TO 2010, IT WENT DOWN 11%. OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS -- THAT'S TOTAL CRIME, THAT'S NOT CRIME RATE. OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS, DESPITE THE INCREASE IN POPULATION, CRIME WENT DOWN 10%. WE HAVE PROBLEMS, BUT WE WORK ON THE PROBLEMS.

WE HAVE -- WE JUST FINISHED THE MEASURE R. HOW OLD IS YOUR SON, BILL? 10 YEARS AGO, WE PASSED MEASURE R. HE WAS BORN THAT YEAR, I REMEMBER. SO FROM THAT, WE REBUILT, BRAND NEW, THREE FIRE STATIONS. THIS IS THE NILES STATION, AND, YOU KNOW, I WANT TO SEE WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE. I WAS NOT IN OFFICE, BRUCE FORGOT TO INVITE ME -- NO, THEY REMEMBERED TO INVITE ME, BUT -- BUT I WANTED TO SEE WHAT THAT LOOKED LIKE, SO I DROVE DOWN NILES BOULEVARD, NOT KNOWING EXACTLY WHERE IT WAS, AND I DROVE BY IT BEFORE I REALIZED IT WAS A FIRE STATION. IT FITS INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD PERFECTLY.

THEN THE LAST ONE WE FINISHED WAS STATION 3, WHICH IS ON CHAPEL IN IRVINGTON, AND THIS WAS ONE OF THE -- THIS WAS THE STATION WE BUILT, OH, 1979, SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AND THE ARCHITECT WAS DICK GALVEZ, WHO WOUND UP ON OUR PLANNING COMMISSION, AND THAT WAS THE DESIGN STANDARD FOR ALL FIRE STATIONS FROM THEN ON. SO WE BUILT, I THINK, EIGHT SINCE, AND NONE OF THEM TO THAT STANDARD, BUT WE REBUILT THIS ONE, IMPORTANT TO RAISE THE BAYS BECAUSE THE NEW ENGINES CARRY MORE STUFF. THEY CAN'T MAKE THEM WIDER; THEY HAD TO MAKE THEM HIGHER. AND OF COURSE THIS IS OUR NEWEST

FIRE ENGINE FOR SMALL FIRES. 1923 FIRE ENGINE THAT WE BROUGHT TO THAT LOCATION. AND I SAID THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS CHART BECAUSE THERE WERE NO SEAGULLS THERE.

[LAUGHTER]

THE WASTE MANAGEMENT FOLKS WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT BETTER THAN ANYBODY. BUT WE TALK ABOUT -- THERE WAS AB 939 THAT REQUIRED A SET DIVERSION FROM THE LANDFILL. THE DIVERSION WAS SET TO BE 50% IN 1990 -- NO, PARDON ME, 25% IN 1990, 50% IN 2000, AND OUR GOAL WAS -- OUR GOAL, NOT THE LAW, WAS TO BE AT 75% BY 2010, SO THERE WE ARE, WE'RE AT 74 IN 2010. THAT'S THE LAST DATA WE HAVE. BUT WE'RE DOING OUR JOB OF KEEPING STUFF OUT OF THE LANDFILL AND RECYCLING IT AND REUSING IT. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE IN BUSINESS, THERE ARE NEW RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS THAT THE STATE HAS IMPOSED ON YOU STARTING JULY 1ST. IF YOU HAVE AN APARTMENT HOUSE OF OVER FIVE UNITS, IT'S MANDATORY RECYCLING ON SITE, AND THE STATE HAS A NEW BILL THAT SAYS CITIES HAVE TO BE AT 75% BY 2020. AND WE'RE IN GOOD SHAPE FOR THAT, BECAUSE IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO -- YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BRING YOUR OWN BAG, AND YOU CAN JOIN ME AND BE THE KIND OF GUY WHO FORGETS TO BRING YOUR BAG IN WHEN YOU GO TO THE STORE, AND THEN YOU'VE GOT TO GO BACK OUT TO THE CAR TO GET IT, OR YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR IT. BUT, YOU KNOW, THE BAGS, EVERY STORE HAS THEM NOW, AND IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO GET USED TO IT. WE PASSED THE BAN ON EXPANDED STYRENE, STYROFOAM. COUNCIL DID IT BEFORE. I SAY "WE." EVERYTHING THAT "WE" DID, I'M PART OF THE CITY SO I'LL SAY "WE" AT ALL TIMES. SO THAT'S WORKING WELL, AND THIS WILL WORK WELL, AND IT'S JUST THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

THEN WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT WHAT A GREAT CITY WE ARE WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS. WE HAVE TWO MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD HERE, AND THEY DESERVE A LOT OF CREDIT FOR SETTING UP A SYSTEM WHERE WE HAVE 40 SCHOOLS IN OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT; OF THOSE 40 SCHOOLS, 35 ARE CERTIFIED AS HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOLS BY THE STATE. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE INDEX, SCORE GOES UP TO A THOUSAND, YOU CAN'T GET MORE THAN A THOUSAND; 35 OF OUR SCHOOLS ARE OVER 800. AND, YOU KNOW, SOME OF THEM, MISSION SAN JOSÉ ELEMENTARY IS AT 996. THAT'S AMAZING! BUT IT'S NOT JUST MISSION SAN JOSÉ ELEMENTARY. IT'S FOREST PARK AND ARDENWOOD, AND EVERY -- ALMOST EVERY SCHOOL ARE UP THERE. AND THE ONES THAT AREN'T, YOU KNOW, ONE OF THEM IS A CONTINUATION SCHOOL. IT DOESN'T GET 800, BUT I BET -- I HAVEN'T ASKED THE QUESTION BUT I BET OUR CONTINUATION SCHOOL DOES BETTER THAN MOST OF THE OTHER CONTINUATION SCHOOLS AROUND THE REGION. SO THAT'S A GREAT STORY, AND WE'RE PROUD OF THAT, AND IT'S A TRIBUTE TO THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT JIM MORRIS, AND, YOU KNOW, THERE IS -- THEY'RE THINKING ABOUT A PROGRAM THIS FALL TO HAVE THE KIND OF FACILITIES THAT MATCH THE QUALITY OF THE STUDENTS. SO YOU MAY GET A CHANCE TO VOTE ON THAT.

AND THEN WE WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM AND AS PART OF THE -- ONE OF THE JOINT MEETINGS BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD AND THE CITY COUNCIL, WE NOW INCLUDE A SECTION ON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN OUR -- WHAT DO YOU CALL, TRIENNIAL NEWSLETTER, NO, THAT'S EVERY THREE YEARS. THREE TIMES A YEAR, WE PUT OUT A NEWSLETTER. SO IN THAT NEWSLETTER, THERE'S A COUPLE PAGES DEALING WITH SCHOOLS TO DO THAT REPORT. AND YOU KNOW, I'D LIKE TO SEE THE POINT WHERE

NOBODY WORRIES ABOUT WHETHER THEY'RE IN THE MISSION SAN JOSÉ AREA OR THE IRVINGTON AREA; THEY JUST WANT TO COME TO FREMONT BECAUSE ALL THE SCHOOLS ARE GOOD AND ALL THE SCHOOLS ARE HIGH PERFORMING. SO FREMONT, YOU KNOW, WE'RE DIVERSE, WE'RE SAFE, WE'RE CLEAN, GREAT SCHOOLS, IT'S A GREAT PLACE FOR A FAMILY. THE HONOR WE WON SEVERAL YEARS AGO AS THE BEST LARGE CITY IN AMERICA FOR KIDS, THAT'S THE THING I'M PROUDEST OF OF ALL THE 25 YEARS I'VE SERVED, AND I'M PROUD OF THAT.

BUT WE'RE NOT DONE. THIS IS A WORK IN PROGRESS. WE ARE A CITY IN PROGRESS, AND WE'RE BUILDING AND GROWING FOR THE FUTURE. WE HAVE PLANS. THIS IS A GRAPHICAL DEPICTION OF THE GENERAL PLAN, WHICH SETS -- BUT YOU KNOW, IF YOU SIT DOWN AND LOOK AT IT, THINK HOW THE GRAPHICAL RECORDER, SOME GENIUS WHO CAN DRAW, SITS THERE AND DRAWS THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING IF YOU'RE DEALING WITH IT, AND THE END RESULT IS YOU GET A PLAN TO WHERE YOU WANT TO BE, AND THIS LOOKS FORWARD TO THE FUTURE, THE SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES WITH BUILDING THE KIND OF COMMUNITY WE ALL WANT TO LIVE IN, PROTECTING WHAT WE HAVE AND MAKING IT BETTER. AND THEN ON TUESDAY NIGHT, WE SEE THE DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN, OR DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN. JUST THINK ABOUT IT FOR A MINUTE. IF NOT US, IF NOT HERE, IF NOT NOW, WHEN, WHERE, AND WHO?

THERE IS A PROBLEM THAT MAN IS AFFECTING OUR CLIMATE. I MEAN, YOU COULD DENY IT, BUT, YOU KNOW, YOU WOULD BE FIGHTING AGAINST REAL SCIENCE, BUT EVEN IF THOSE WHO DENY IT ARE RIGHT, IT JUST MAKES SENSE TO DO THE RIGHT THING. IT MAKES SENSE TO USE LOW ENERGY LIGHT BULBS, IT MAKES SENSE TO NOT THROW THINGS AWAY, TO RE-USE THEM. IT JUST MAKES SENSE. SO WE NEED TO ADDRESS THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GREEN TASK FORCE SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND DEVELOP A PLAN. THERE'S SOME CONTROVERSY, BUT JUST MINOR STUFF, WE'LL WORK THROUGH IT. WE NEED TO PREPARE FOR OUR FUTURE. SO IT'S US, AND IT'S NOW, AND IT'S HERE.

SO THEN IN SUMMARY, FREMONT --

[LAUGHTER]

CHERYL AND I HAD A DISCUSSION OVER WHETHER THAT WOULD BE THERE, WHETHER WE SHOULD USE THAT OR NOT. CHERYL WON. I TRIED TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO CLOSE THIS.

LET ME CLOSE IT WITH A COUPLE OF BRIEF WORDS. WHAT IS THE STATE OF THE CITY? THANKS TO A WHOLE LOT OF WORK BY BOB WASSERMAN AND THE CITY COUNCIL IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, WE'RE SOUND. WE HAVE WEATHERED THE WORST DEPRESSION SINCE THE 1930S, THE WORST DEPRESSION IN FREMONT'S HISTORY. WE HAVE PREPARED OURSELF FOR THE FUTURE, WE ARE READY FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS, WE ARE -- WE CAN SUSTAIN OURSELVES IF THE DEPRESSION DOESN'T END, BUT WHEN IT ENDS, AND IT IS ENDING, WE ARE PREPARED TO RIDE THAT WAVE INTO THE FUTURE TO BUILD FREMONT AS THE KIND OF PLACE WE ALL DREAMED IT WOULD BE, AND WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT. NOW, I'M PREPARED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTION. IF I CAN'T ANSWER IT, THERE'S A WHOLE LOT OF STAFF AROUND HERE, AND IF YOU DON'T GET THE ANSWER, WE'RE ON THE

NET, WE'RE ALL ON SOCIAL MEDIA, WHATEVER IT IS. SO NINA HAS A MICROPHONE OVER THERE.

[APPLAUSE]

ANYBODY?

I HAVE PRIZES. ASK A QUESTION, GET A PRIZE. NO QUESTIONS? OKAY. NO PRIZES. ALL RIGHT. QUESTION?

>> I WASN'T GOING TO LET YOU GO THAT EASY, GUS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR AN EXCELLENT PRESENTATION. THANK YOU. WANTED TO ASK YOU, WITH REDEVELOPMENT GONE, WHAT IS THE CITY DOING TO PARTNER WITH BUILDERS, DEVELOPERS, SO FORTH, IN TAKING ON NEW PROJECTS IN AREAS THAT ARE VITAL TO YOU RIGHT NOW?

>> MAYOR MORRISON: WELL, IF YOU DEAL WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT AREAS, WE HAVE THREE PIECES OF LAND THAT ARE -- WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH. THERE'S -- THE FREMONT CITY COUNCIL IS A SUCCESSOR AGENCY, AND WE HAVE AN OVERSIGHT AGENCY, WHICH RAJ IS ON, ALONG WITH DAVID BONACCORSI AND A FEW OTHER DISTINGUISHED PEOPLE TO MAKE SURE WE DO IT RIGHT. WE NEED TO DEAL WITH THE CENTERVILLE SITE, WE NEED TO DEAL WITH A LITTLE PIECE IN NILES, AND WE NEED TO DEAL WITH ANOTHER LITTLE PIECE IN CENTERVILLE. SO WE ARE WORKING WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN DEALING WITH IT, BUT IN GENERAL, ANYBODY WHO WANTS TO GIVE TO THE CITY, WE WORK HARD TO GET THEM THROUGH TO MAKE IT PRODUCTIVE.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, KELLY KLINE IS PREPARED TO HELP PEOPLE WALK THROUGH THE PROCESS AND TO HELP US GET IT DONE. WE WANT THAT STUFF AS MUCH AS EVERYBODY ELSE WANTS IT. IT'S IMPORTANT TO US IN THE FUTURE.

NINA IS RUNNING AROUND WITH THE -- LOOKS LIKE ROGER SHANKS. NO. YOUR MICROPHONE IS NOT ON.

>> CAN YOU HEAR ME? OH, GREAT. FIRST, I WANT TO COMMEND YOU, THAT'S AN AMAZING POWERPOINT PRESENTATION. THE BEST I'VE SEEN IN A LONG, LONG TIME.

>> MAYOR MORRISON: CHERYL DID IT.

[APPLAUSE]

>> MAYOR MORRISON: GREAT JOB.

>> IN YOUR ADDRESS, YOU MENTIONED THE LAKE, AND THAT'S A TREMENDOUS SOURCE OF COMMUNITY. I MEAN, MY WIFE AND I FREQUENTLY GO WALKING THERE, AND I HAD A QUESTION ABOUT EVEN DEEPENING THAT SENSE OF COMMUNITY. HAS THERE BEEN ANY THOUGHT GIVEN -- THERE MAY HAVE BEEN, WE JUST MOVED TO THE CITY A COUPLE YEARS AGO BUT -- THOUGHT GIVEN TO LIGHTING IT DURING THE NIGHT? STILL PERHAPS IN A WAY THAT OAKLAND CURRENTLY DOES IT. BECAUSE I THINK THAT MIGHT HELP THINGS. OBVIOUSLY THAT COSTS MONEY, SO I'M JUST WONDERING IF YOU HAD ANY THOUGHTS ABOUT IT.

>> MAYOR MORRISON: I DON'T KNOW ABOUT -- I DON'T RECALL IT EVER BEING TALKED ABOUT. I WOULD SAY THE FIRST PROBLEM IS THE COST. IT WOULD BE VERY COSTLY. AND I WOULD THINK THAT -- THE POLICE DEPARTMENT GUYS ARE SITTING OVER HERE. I DON'T THINK THAT THEY WOULD WANT PEOPLE GOING AROUND THE LAKE AT NIGHT. WHETHER THERE'S LIGHTS OR NOT IS NOT REALLY ALL THAT FAMILY FRIENDLY. WE'RE FAMILY-FRIENDLY BUT NOT THAT FAMILY-FRIENDLY.

[LAUGHTER]

ANYTHING ELSE? OKAY. WELL, I THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR ATTENTION, AND NOBODY LEFT. I'M REALLY PLEASED ABOUT THAT. THANKS FOR COMING.

[APPLAUSE]